LIBRARY

CHARLTON KINGS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

JUNE 1939.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

TO
THE CHAIRMAN & MEMBERS of the
CHARLTON KINGS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances for the year 1938.

The year has been a healthy one and the district relatively free from infectious disease.

The Council inaugurated a scheme for the immunization of children under 8 years of age against diphtheria. Children treated in this manner not only receive individual protection but as a group form a barrier to infection.

Your Medical Officer also took part in meetings in connection with the National Health Campaign, one of these being held in this district. The object of the meeting was to bring home to the public the importance of adequate nutrition.

Eighteen houses were built by the Council during the year enabling an equivalent number of families to move out of insanitary and overcrowded conditions.

Ten unfit houses were demolished and there still remains a pressing need for further Council houses.

I have the honour to be,

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd) STEPHEN KNIGHT.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A - Statistics & Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres)	3399
Registrar Generals estimate of resident population, mid 1938	5015
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to rate book	1633
Rateable value	£38,603
Sum represented by a 1d rate	£150. 6. 0½.

EXTRACTS from Vital Statistics for, the year 1938.

Births.		Total	M	F
Live births	Legitimate	64	31	33
	Illegitimate	1	1	-

Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population - 12.9

Still birhts :	Legitimate	2	1	2

Rate per 1000 total (live & still) births 30.0

Deaths.

Death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population - 12.8

Comparability Factor - 0.78

Corrected death rate (12.8 x 0.78) - 10.0

Deaths from Puerperal causes :-

Puerperal sepsis)	
Other puerperal causes)	Nil

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age :-

All infants per 1000 live births	- 46
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	- 47
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	- Nil

Deaths from	Cancer (all ages)	- 10
" "	Measles "	- Nil
" "	Whopping cough (all ages)	- Nil
" "	Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	- 1

DEATH RATE.

There were 64 deaths of people ordinarily resident in this district as compared with 69 during 1937. The death rate for the year was 12.8. For purposes of comparison the recorded death rate should be multiplied by the comparibility factor which for this district is 0.78 to give a corrected death rate of 10.0. The corrected death rate is the rate which would have occurred had the age and sex distribution of the district been the same as that of the country as a whole. The corrected figure of 10.0 compares favourably with 11.6 for the country as a whole.

There was no excessive mortality from any one cause. Ten deaths were due to cancer but this is to be expected in a population which includes a relatively high proportion of elderly people.

BIRTH RATE.

There were 65 births as compared with 81 last year. The birth

rate was only 12.9 compared with 15.1 for the country as a whole. The district is relatively small and slight deviations make the rate fluctuate so that the rate in this area should be studied over a number of years to arrive at a true picture. Last year the Charlton Kings rate was considerably above the national rate.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Only three infants died before reaching the age of one year. Thus the infantitle mortality rate was 46 compared with the national figure of 53.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

COMPARATIVE BIRTH RATES, Death rates, Analysis of Mortality during the year :-

	England & Wales.	Charlton Kings.
	Rates per 1000 of population.	
Births :-		
Live	15.1	12.9
Still	0.60	.40
Deaths :-		
All causes	11.6	12.9
" " (corrected	11.6	10.0
	Rates per 1000 Live births.	
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	53	53

Maternal mortality :-

	Rates per 1000 - total births i.e. live & still	
Puerperal sepsis	0.86	Nil
Others	2.11	Nil
Total	2.97	Nil

SECTION B - General provision of health services for the area.

(i) M.O.H. - Stephen Knight, M.B., B.S.(lond) D.P.H.

(ii) Sanitary Inspector - F.A.Middleton, R.P.C. M.Inst. B.E.

(iii) (a) Laboratory facilities - Pathological specimens are examined at the Cheltenham General Hospital.

(b) Ambulance facilities :-
Infectious cases - The Delancey Hospital Ambulance
Non- " " - St.Johns Ambulance Association.
The whole area is served by the Cheltenham Ambulance Association (St.Johns & Red Cross). All persons resident in the district call upon the Ambulance for other than infectious cases. The Association collects the fee but in many necessitious cases, it is remitted.
The Council have no agreement with the Association but one year made a contribution.
From the residents point of view the arrangement is excellent but the Council may now enter into an agreemen with the Association.

(c) Nursing in the Home - Two District Nurses maintained by the Local Nursing Association.

(d) Treatment Centres & Clinics - The Gloucestershire

County Council have arranged facilities for diagnosis and treatment at the Cheltenham General Hospital.

SECTION C - Sanitary circumstances of the area.

1. (1) Water Supply.- The greater part of the area is supplied by the Cheltenham Corporation Water Undertaking and is of satisfactory quantity and quality. The district will share in the benefits that will accrue from the Gloucester & Cheltenham Water Act.

Six samples were taken from Wells during the year.

The districts quota under the Gloucestershire County Council scheme for sampling of water and sewage is ten samples.

There are some 226 houses which are not connected to a piped supply. Although some of these houses are outlying Farms & Cottages the majority are small houses in the congested part of the district which depend upon Pumps. Generally speaking these Wells are badly sited & inadequately propected against contamination. In a number of cases the owners were requested to connect to the public supply.

There were 46 new connections with the public supply.

(2) Sewerage & Drainage. - Nearly the whole of the area is connected to the Cheltenham Corporation sewerage system.

Extensions of sewers took place in Moorend Road, 100 yards, Charlton Park gate 150 yards and Avenue Estate 40 yards.

2. Rivers & Streams. - Complaint was made of pollution of a tributary of the River Chelt. The pollution was found to be due to the drainage from a house discharging into a surface water drain.

3. (1) Closet Accommodation - No earth closets, pail closets or improved privies were constructed nor any replacements of earth closets etc by W.C's took place.

(2) Refuse Collection & Disposal - The whole area is covered by a regular collection & disposal is by means of controlled tipping in a Tip within the Councils area. There work is carried out by direct labour. An improved method of disposal was adopted by more exactly carrying out the requirements of controlled tipping at the Cirencester Road Tip. There can be no reasonable cause of complaint if these rules are strictly complied with.

(3) Sanitary Inspection & Supervision of Food.

	No. on Register.	Number Inspected.	No. of Inspections
Common Lodging houses	None	None	-
Slaughter houses	1	1	12
Bakehouses	4	4	27
Dairies,Cowsheds,Milkshops	20	20	101
Canal boats	None	-	-
Workshops &c	43	43	43
Factories	3	3	6
Outworkers residences	2	2	2

General :-

No. of complaints received		18
" "nuisances reported	Total	48
	Swine	None
" " " abated		26
" " informal or preliminary notices served		16
" " statutory notices served		10
" " summonses taken out		None
" " convictions obtained		None
" " houses disinfected		5
Method of disinfection		Formalin lamp

The standard of the Cowsheds in the district is high as a result of action taken by the Council some years ago. During the year one cowshed was reconstructed in respect of which the Farmer now holds an accredited license.

(4) Three cases were dealt with under the Shop Acts 1934, i.e.
1 case of improvement of ventilation
1 " " temperature
1 " " sanitary accommodation

Two certificates were issued under Sec. 34 of the Factories Act 1937 as to the adequacy of the means of escape in the case of fire.

(5) Camping Sites.

No sites were used for camping purposes during the year.

(6) Smoke Abatement. No complaints were received during the year.

(7) Swimming Baths and Pools. There are no swimming baths in the area but full facilities are available in the adjoining Borough of Cheltenham.

(8) Eradication of Bed Bugs. No houses were found to be infested with Bed bugs.

4. SCHOOLS. The Schools in the district are connected to a piped water supply and to the public sewer.
A scheme for immunising children under 8 years of age was started during the year. The treatment was carried out in the Infant Schools and a series of three injections given (Burroughs Wellcome & Co. Flocculis). 57 or approximately 25% of the children in the Infant Schools were treated.
Although the parents of the pre-school children were approached they did not avail themselves of the scheme.
The Council will supply the material and pay a fee of 5/- to private Doctors for immunising children under 5 years of age.

SECTION D - HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year :-
(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing Defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts 48
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose 90

(2) (a) No. of dwellin houses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected & recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 & 1935 16
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose 41

(3) No. of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 5

(4) No. of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 11

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :-

No. of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 2

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :-

(a) Proceedings under Secs. 9,10 & 16 of the Housing Act 1936 :-

(1) No.of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs

(2) No. of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :- 10

(a) By owners 3

(b) " Local Authority in default of owners None

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-

(1) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 1

(2) No. of dwellin houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :-

(a) By owners 1

(b) " Local Authority None

(c) Proceedings under Secs. 11 & 13 of the Housing Act 1936 :

(1) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 3

(2) No. of dwellin houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 10

(d) Proceedings under Sec. 12 of the Housing Act 1936 :

(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 1

(2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .2

4. Housing Act 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding :-

(a) (i) No.of dwellinghouses overcrowded at end of year 2

(ii) " families dwelling therein 2

(iii) " persons dwelling therein 10

(b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 4

(c) (i) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 12

(ii) " " persons concerned in such cases 76

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwe linghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcr wding Nil

(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report :-
Overcrowding in this district has been largely abated as the result of the provision of 18 new Council houses.

5. All new houses :-

(1) Total new houses erected during the year 40

(2) " " " " under Housing Acts :

(a) By Local Authority 18

(b) Other bodies None

(3) New houses erected without subsidy None

(4) " " proposed to be erected under Housing Acts but not yet built 5

SECTION E.

Included in Section C (Sanitary Administration).

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SECTION V - Prevalence of & Control over Infectious & Other Diseases.

Notifiable diseases during the year :-

Disease.	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	-	-	-
Scarlet fever	5	5	-
Diphtheria	1	1	-
Enteric fever (including paratyphoid)	-	-	-
Puerperal fever	-	-	-
" pyrexia	-	-	-
Pneumonia	4	-	4
Other diseases generally notifiable :-			
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Other diseases notifiable locally	-	-	-

Only one case of diphtheria occurred during the year at a time when there were many cases in the neighbourhood. The immunity enjoyed was, no doubt, in some measure due to the good response to the immunization scheme.

The incidence of diphtheria was only 0.25 per 1000 of the population as compared with 1.58 for England & Wales.

There were five cases of Scarlet fever giving an incidence of 1.00 per 1000 of the population as against 2.41 for England & Wales.

A description of the working of the Council's scheme for immunization against diphtheria is given earlier in this report under "Schools".

There were three deaths from Tuberculosis during the year; all cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, 2 men and 1 woman.

Five new cases were notified during the year as follows :-

Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
2 M	2 F	1 M	0 F.

Registrar General's short table of causes of deaths corrected for inward and outward transfers :-

Causes.	Number M	F	Total
1 Paratyphoid or typhoid	-	1	1
6 Influenza	-	2	2
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2	1	3
13 Cancer	1	9	10
14 Diabetes	1	1	2
15 Cerebral haemorrhage	2	2	4
16 Heart disease	5	11	16
18 Other circulatory diseases	-	2	2
19 Bronchitis	-	1	1
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	2	2	4
21 Other respiratory diseases	1	-	1
23 Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1	-	1
27 Other digestive diseases	1	1	2
28 Acute & chronic nephritis	2	3	5
32 Senility	1	-	1
34 Other violence	-	1	1
35 Other defined diseases	5	3	8
Total	24	40	64